INDICATORS OF ABUSE, NEGLECT, AND EXPLOITATION

ABUSE

- Multiple/severe bruises, burns, welts
- Bilateral bruises on upper arms
- Clustered bruises on trunk
- Bruises which resemble an object
- Old and new bruises
- Signs of bone fractures
- Broken bones, open wounds, skull fracture
- Striking, shoving, beating, kicking, scratching
- Internal injuries

- Sprains, dislocation, lacerations, cuts, punctures
- Black eyes
- Bed sores
- Untreated injuries
- Broken glasses/frames
- Untreated medical condition
- Burns, scalding
- Restrained, tied to bed, tied to chair, locked in, isolated

- Overmedicated
- Verbal assaults, threats, intimidation
- Prolonged interval between injury and treatment
- Demonstrates fear of caregiver
- Case manager not allowed to see client alone
- Recent or sudden changes in behavior
- Unexplained fear
- Unwarranted suspicion

SEXUAL ABUSE

- Genital or urinary irritation, injury, infection or scarring
- Presence of a sexually transmitted disease
- Frequent, unexplained physical illness
- Intense fear reaction to an individual or to people in general
- Mistrust of others
- Nightmares, night terrors, sleep disturbance
- Direct or coded disclosure of sexual abuse
- Disturbed peer interactions
- Depression or blunted affect
- Poor self-esteem
- Self-destructive activity or suicidal ideation

NEGLECT

- Untreated medical condition
- Untreated mental health problem(s)
- Bedsores
- Medication not taken as prescribed
- Malnourishment
- Dehydration
- Dirt, fleas, lice on person
- Fecal/urine smell
- Animal infested living quarters

- Insect infested living quarters
- No functioning toilet
- No heat, running water, electricity
- Homelessness
- Lacks needed supervision
- Lack of food or inadequate food
- Uneaten food over period of time
- Accumulated newspaper/debris

- Unpaid bills
- Inappropriate or inadequate clothing
- Needs but does not have glasses, hearing aide, teeth, prosthetic device
- Hazardous living conditions
- Soiled bedding/furniture
- Frequent moving
- House too hot or cold

FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION

- Unexplained disappearance of funds or valuables
- Dependent relationship (e.g. adult child is financially dependent upon the older person or the older person is dependent for care giving by the alleged abuser)
- Misuse of money or property by another person
- Transfer of property, savings, etc.
- Excessive payment for care and/or services

- Client unaware of income amount
- Depleted bank account
- Sudden appearance of previously uninvolved relatives/friends
- Change in payee, power of attorney, Will
- Caregiver is overly frugal
- Unexplained cash flow
- Unusual household composition
- Chronic failure to pay bills

- Personal belongings missing
- Client is kept isolated
- Signatures on check that do not resemble the client's signature
- Client complains doesn't know what happened to money
- Checks no longer come to house
- Client reports signing papers and doesn't know what was signed